HORM OF PRAYER TO BE USED

Asp his Majetty's Especial Command LONDON

1776

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A

FORM OF PRAYER

ISSUED

By Special Command of his Majesty
GEORGE III

LONDON

1776

Imploring Divine assistance against the King's unhappy deluded Subjects in America now in open rebellion against the Crown

IN THE COLLECTION OF THE

AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

Held at Philadelphia for Promoting Useful Knowledge

REPRODUCED IN FAC-SIMILE

ВY

JULIUS F. SACHSE

.PHILADELPHIA

MDCCCXCVIII

19181

Resolved, That authority be given to Mr. Sachse to reproduce the Form of Prayer for fasting and prayer appointed by George III in December, 1776, on the breaking out of the Revolution in the American Colonies.—Extract from Minutes Am. Philo. Soc., February 18, 1898.



One hundred and fifty copies of this work have been printed, of which this is No.

PREFATORY NOTE.

In the history of the early period of the American Revolution allusions are constantly found making mention of certain prayers read by loyal clergymen of the Established Church,—prayers which proved distasteful to the temper of their patriot hearers, and were used by the latter as an excuse for debarring the offending clergyman from his pulpit. Notable examples in our vicinity are the Rev. Mr. Currie and Rev. Mr. Barton of Pennsylvania, and Rev. Dr. Odell of New Jersey.

Current traditions also speak of special prayers for the pacification of the Colonies, ordered to be read both in England and America, by royal command, as soon as the advices from America showed that the Colonial uprising was organized and widespread.

Diligent search, however, failed to bring any such Form of Prayer to light, until recently a printed copy—found in the collection of the American Philosophical Society by the Librarian, Dr. I. Minis Hays—was brought to the notice of the writer. This copy appears to be unique, and has proved to be unknown to the various Churchmen, scholars and historians to whom it was shown.

From the text it will be seen that, although not specially stated on the title, the prayers were ordered by "His Majesty's special command" for the express purpose of invoking divine assistance in "subduing his unhappy deluded Subjects in America now in open rebellion against the Crown." The finding of this tractate is a new and interesting addition to both our Revolutionary and religious literature.

April, 1898.

J. F. S.



A

F O R M

OF

PRAYER.

TO BE USED

In all Churches and Chapels throughout that Part of Great Britain called England, Dominion of Wales, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed, upon Friday the Thirteenth of December next, being the Day appointed by Proclamation for a General Fast and Humiliation before Almighty God, to be observed in most Devout and Solemn Manner, by sending up Our Prayers and Supplications to the Divine Majesty:

For obtaining Pardon of Our Sins, and for averting those heavy Judgements, which Our manifold Provocations have most justly deserved; and imploring His Blessing and Assistance on the Arms of His Majesty by Sea and Land, and for restoring and perpetuating Peace, Safety, and Prosperity to Himself, and to His Kingdoms.

By his Wajesty's Special Command.

LONDON.

Printed by CHARLES EYRE and WILLIAM STRAHAN,
Printers to the King's most Excellent Majesty. 1776.



The Order for Morning Prayer.

- ¶ The Service shall be the same with the usual Office for Holy-days, except where it is in this-Office otherwise appointed.
- ¶ Let bim that ministereth read with a loud Voice these Sentences of Scripture; and after them the Exhortation, Dearly beloved Brethren, &c.



LORD, correct me, but with Jer. x. 24. judgement, not in thine anger, lest thou bring me to nothing.

I will arise, and go to my father, S. Luke and will fay unto him, Father, I xv. 18, 19. have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy

to be called thy fon.

Instead of the Venite, this Hymn shall be used.

HE facrifice of God is a troubled spirit: Psalm II. a broken and contrite heart, O God, thou 17. wilt not despise.

I said, I will confess my sins unto the Lord: and so Plaim thou forgavest the wickedness of my sin

I will

Morning Prayer.

Pfalm I will love thee, O Lord, my strength; the Lord xviii. 1. is my stony rock and my defence. my Saviour. God, the horn also of my salvation, and my refuge. Pfalm I will call upon the Lord, which is worthy to be praifxviii. 2 ed: so shall I be safe from mine enemies. Pfalm. For this shall every one that is godly make his XXII. 7. prayer unto thee, in a time when thou mayest be found. Pfalm. xliv. Thou art my King, O God: send belp unto Jacob. For I will not trust in my bow: it is not my Ver. 7. fword that shall help me. Ver. 8. But it is thou that savest us from our Enemies: and puttest them to confusion that hate us. Pfalm There is no king that can be saved by the multixxxiii, 15. tude of an hoft: neither is any mighty man delivered by much strength. Pfalm I will say unto the Lord, Thou art my hope and my XCI. 2. strong bold: my God; in him will I trust. Ver. 1 Whoso dwelleth under the defence of the most High, shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. He shall defend thee under his wings, and thou shalt Ver. 4. be safe under his feathers: his faithfulness and truth shall be thy shield and buckler. Pfalm

Thou art a place to hide me in; thou shalt preserve me from trouble: thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance.

Pfalm xxxi. 17. My time is in thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine Enemies.

O fave thy people, and give thy bleffing to thine inheritance: feed them, and fet them up for ever.

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xxviii 10.

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Morning Prayer.

The Lord shall give strength unto his people: the Lord Plain shall give his people the hlessing of peace.

Glory be-to the Father, and to the Son: and to the

Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

¶ Proper Pfalms, XXVII, XLVI, LXIV.

First Lesson, Isaiah LVIII.

After the first Lesson, shall follow Te Deum laudamus, in English.

Second Lesson, St. Luke VIII. ver. 22 to 26.

Then Benedictus, The Creed, &c. to the End of the Lord's Prayer.

· Then the Priest standing up, shall say,

Priest. O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us!

Answ. And grant us thy falvation. Priest. O Lord, fave the King!

Answ. And mercifully hear us, when we call upon thee.

Priest. Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

Anjw. And make thy chosen people joyful.

Priest. Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Answ. Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

Prieft.

Priest. O Lord, save thy servants!

Answ. Who put their trust in thee.

Priest. Send us help from thy holy place.

Answer. And evermore mightily defend us.

Priest. Let the Enemy have no advantage against us;

Answ. Nor the wicked approach to hurt us.

Priest. Lord hear our Prayer!

Aufw. And let our cry come unto thee.

These Two Collects to be used instead of the First Collect for Morning Prayer.

Almighty God, who rulest over all the kingdoms of the earth, and on whose most gracious providence they depend evermore for prefervation and prosperity; Extend thine accultomed goodness to the people of this land, who looking up to thee as the supreme author of all blessings, and then sure fafeguard and mighty deliverer in all dangers and difficulties, do now implore thy watchful care and protection; befeeching thee to guide them continually with thy counsel, to strengthen them with thy powerful arm, and to crown with success their necessary endeavours in defeating the unjust attempts of their rebellious fellow-subjects against the rights of our Sovereign, and the lawful authority of the legislature of these kingdoms. Grant this, O merciful Father, for Jesus Christ's fake, our only Lord and Saviour. Amen.

Lord God of our falvation, in whose hands are the issues of life and death, of good and evil, and without whose aid the wisest counsels of frail

men, and the multitude of an host, and all the instruments of war are but weak and vain; incline thine ear, we pray thee, to the carnest and devout supplications of thy servants, who, not confiding in the splendour of any thing that is great, or the stability of any thing that is strong here below, do most humbly flee, O Lord, unto thee for fuccour, and put their trust under the shadow of thy wings. Be thou to us a tower of defence against the assaults of our enemies, our shield and buckler in the day of battle. and so bless the arms of our gracious Sovereign, in the maintenance of His just and lawful rights, and prosper His endeavours to restore tranquillity among His unhappy deluded subjects in America, now in open rebellion against His Crown, in defiance of all fubordination and legal government, that we being preserved by thy help and goodness from all perils and difasters, and made happily triumphant over ail the disturbers of our peace, may joyfully laud and magnify thy glorious Name; and serve thee from generation to generation in all godliness and quietness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

- ¶ Then shall follow the second and third Collects at Morning Prayer: And the Litany.
- ¶ After the Prayer in the End of the Litany [We humbly beseech thee, &c.] shall these following be added:

O Lord,

Lord, we befeech thee, mercifully hear our prayers, and spare all those who confess their sins unto thee: that they, whose consciences by sin are accused, by thy merciful pardon may be absolved, through Christ our Lord. Amen

¶ Then the People shall say this that followeth, after the Minister.

WRN thou us, O good Lord, and so shall we be turned. Be favourable, O Lord, Be favourable to thy people, Who turn to thee in weeping, fasting, and praying. For thou art a merciful God, Full of compassion, Long-suffering, and of great pity. Thou sparest when we deserve punishment, And in thy wrath thinkest upon mercy. Spare thy people, good Lord, spare them, and let not thine heritage be brought to consussion. Hear us, O Lord, for thy mercy is great, And after the multitude of thy mercies look upon us, through the merits and mediation of thy blessed Son Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Lord most good and powerful, we thy sinful people, here assembled before thee, do acknowledge it thine unspeakable mercy, that for our manifold and heinous provocations we are not utterly consumed, and given over for a prey to the Enemy and Avenger. We confess, with sorrow and confusion, our long unfruitfulness under the means of grace, grace, the light of thy gospel, and the many wonderful deliverances of this Church and State, which thou in thy great goodness hast vouchsafed unto us. O Lord, shouldest thou enter into judgement with us for the crying fins of this nation, our profaneness and infidelity, herefies and schisms, our inordinate love of pleasures, and other manifold offences, thou mightest justly inflict upon us the severity of thy wrath, and deliver us up to the reproaches and infults of our Enemies: but there is mercy with thee, therefore shalt thou be feared: thou art the Lord God, tender and full of compassion, not willing that any should perish, but that all should repent and live. Look down therefore, we befeech thee, with an eye of pity and loving-kindness upon thy servants, who, with broken and contrite hearts, do here bewail our transgressions and wretchedness. Let our land in this time of trouble still enjoy the light of thy countenance, and the bleffings of thy bountiful hand; and fo work upon our hearts and minds by the gracious influences of thy Holy Spirit, that being turned from the error of our ways, and created to newness of life, we may walk before thee in all righteousness and holiness in this world, and inherit thine everlasting kingdom in that which is to come, through the merits of Jesus Christ our only Mediator and Advocate.

¶ Then read to the End of Morning Prayer as usual.

The Communion Service,

After the Prayer for the King [Almighty God, whose Kingdom is everlasting] shall be read the Two Collects of the Day, as in the Morning Prayer [O Almighty God, &c. O Lord God, &c.] and then shall follow.

The Epistle. 1 Peter Chap. II. Ver. 11, to Ver. 18.

EARLY beloved, It befeech you, as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from stelly lusts, which war against the soul; having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that whereas they speak against you as evil-doers, they may, by your good works which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation. Submit yourselves to overy ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the King as supreme; or unto Governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evil doers, and for the praise of them that do well. For so is the will of God, that with well deing ye may put to silence the ignorance of soolish men: As

free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God. Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the King.

The Gospel. St. Luke XIII. Ver. 1, to 6.

HERE were present at that season some that told him of the Galileans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their facrifices. And Jesus answering, said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galileans were sinners above all the Galileans, because they suffered these things? I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem? I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

¶ Then shall follow the Nicene Creed: and after that the Sermon.

After the Prayer [for the whole state of Christ's Church] the following shall be used.

¶ A Prayer for this Church and Kingdom.

Blessed Lord, who hast manifested thine abundant favour to these realms, in thy marvellous protection of our religion, laws, and liberties, from B 2

the fecret conspiracies, and open attempts of our enemies; We beseech thee to preserve evermore in our minds, such a grateful sense of these thine invaluable mercies, that by our exemplary and religious use of them, and happy improvements under them, to thy honour and fervice, we may be accounted worthy of the continuance of thy bleffings to us and our posterity. Take away from us, O Lord, all hardness of heart, all neglect of thine ordinances. and contempt of thy word; and endue us with a spirit of piety and devotion, a spirit of justice and temperance, of humility and charity, and of all other graces. which adorn the Christian profession; that so thy dreadful displeasure and judgements may be ever averted from us, and iniquity not become our ruin. Be thou pleased also with thine especial favour to guard and prosper our gracious Sovereign King GEORGE, with all the Royal Family. Be thou to Him, O Lord, an helmet of Salvation against His enemies that delight in war. Do thou, we pray thee, frustrate their wicked designs, defeat their stratagems, and so put them to flight and confusion before His face, that the terror of His arms may add dignity and lustre to His Crown, and bring fafety, joy, and happiness to Himself and His kingdoms. Grant this, O merciful Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

¶ A Prayer for Unity.

GOD, who hast taught us in thy holy Word, to increase and abound in love one towards another, put away from us, we beseech thee, all bitterness and wrath, and evil-speaking and envy, that our hearts may be firmly knit together in mutual affection, in zeal for our religion and laws, in dutiful obedience to the King, and all who are in authority under him; that as there is but one body and one Spirit, and one hope of our calling, one faith, one God and Father of us all, so we may henceforth be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify thee, O God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶ A Prayer for our Enemies.

BLESSED Lord, who hast commanded us by thy beloved Son to love our Enemies, and to extend our charity in praying even for those, who despitefully use us, give grace, we beseech thee, to our unhappy fellow-subjects in America, that seeing and confessing the error of their ways, and having a due sense of their ingratitude for the many blessings of thy Providence, preserved to them by the indulgent care and protection of these kingdoms, they may again return to their duty, and make themselves worthy

worthy of thy pardon and forgiveness: Grant us in the mean time not only strength and courage to withstand them, but charity to forgive and pity them, to shew a willingness to receive them again as friends and brethren, upon just and reasonable terms, and to treat them with mercy and kindness, for the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lmighty God, who hast promised to hear the petitions of them that ask in thy Son's Name; We beseech thee mercifully to incline thine ears to us that have made now our prayers and supplications unto thee; and grant, that those things which we have faithfully asked according to thy will, may essectually be obtained, to the relief of our necessity, and to the setting forth of thy glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶ Then the Priest (or Bishop, if he be present) shall let them depart with this Blessing:

HE peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. Amen. The ORDER for

EVENING PRAYER.

¶ Let him that ministereth read with a loud Voice these Sentences of Scripture; and after them the Exhortation, Dearly beloved Brethren, &c.



LORD, correct me, but with Jer. x. 24. judgement, not in thine anger, lest thou bring me to nothing.

I will arise, and go to my father, St. Luke and will tay unto him, Father, I xv. 18, 19. have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy

to be called thy fon.

¶ The Hymn appointed to be used at Morning Prayer, instead of the Venite, &c. shall bere also be used before the proper Psalms.

¶ Proper Psalms, CXX, CXXI, CXLIV.

¶ First Lesson, 2 Chron. XX. to Ver. 31.

Magnificat. St. Luke I. 46.

My foul doth magnify the Lord, &c.

¶ Second Leffon, James IV. to Ver. 11.

Deus misereatur. Psalm LXVII.

God be merciful unto us, &c.

I Then the Creed, &c. to the End of the Lord's Prayer.

¶ Then the Priest, standing up, shall say,

Priest. O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us!

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Anfw. And grant us thy salvation.

Priest O Lord, save the King!

Anjw. And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Priest.

Priest. Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

Answ. And make thy chosen people joyful.

Priest. Give peace in our time, O Lord !

Answ. Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

Priest. O Lord, fave thy servants!

Answ. Who put their trust in thee,

Priest. Send us help from thy holy place.

Ansiv. And evermore mightily defend us.

Priest. Let the enemy have no advantage against us;

Answ. Nor the wicked approach to hurt us.

Priest. Lord, hear our prayer!

Anjw. And let our cry come unto thee.

¶ These Two Collects to be used instead of the First Collect for the Evening Prayer.

Almighty God, who rulest over all the kingdoms of the earth, and on whose most gracious providence they depend evermore for preservation and prosperity; Extend thine accustomed goodness to the people of this land; who looking up to thee as the supreme author of all blessings, and their sure safeguard and mighty deliverer in all dangers and difficulties, do now implore thy watchful care and protection; beseeching thee to guide them continually with thy counsel, to strengthen them with thy powerful

powerful arm, and to crown with success their necestary endeavours in defeating the unjust attempts of their rebellious fellow-subjects against the rights of our Sovereign, and the lawful authority of the legislature of these kingdoms. Grant this, O merciful Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Lord and Saviour. Amen.

Lord God of our falvation, in whose hands are the issues of life and death, of good and evil, and without whose aid the wisest counsels of frail men, and the multitude of an host, and all the instruments of war are but weak and vain: incline thine ear, we pray thee, to the earnest and devout supplications of thy servants, who, not confiding in the splendour of any thing that is great, or the stability of any thing that is strong here below, 'do most humbly flee, O Lord, unto thee for fuccour, and put their trust under the shadow of thy wings. Be thou to us a tower of defence against the assaults of our enemies, our shield and buckler in the day of battle, and so bless the arms of our gracious Sovereign, in the maintenance of His just and lawful rights, and prosper His endeavours to restore tranquillity among His unhappy deluded subjects in America, now in open rebellion against His Crown, in defiance of all subordination and legal government, that we being preferved by thy help and goodness from all perils and disasters, and made happily triumphant over all the disturbers of our peace, may joyfully laud and mag-

nify

nify thy glorious Name; and serve thee from generation to generation in all godliness and quietness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Second Collect at Evening Prayer.

GOD, from whom all holy defires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our Enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

The Third Collect, for Aid against all Perils.

Ighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night, for the love of thy only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

LORD, we befeech thee mercifully hear our prayers; and spare all those who confess their fins unto thee; that they whose consciences by sin are accused, by thy merciful pardon may be absolved, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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¶ Then

¶ Then the People shall say this that followeth, after the Minister:

I URN thou us, O good Lord, and so shall we be turned. Be favourable, O Lord, Be favourable to thy people, Who turn to thee in weeping, fasting, and praying. For thou art a merciful God, Full of compassion, Long suffering, and of great pity. Thou sparest when we deserve punishment, And in thy wrath thinkest upon mercy. Spare thy people, good Lord, spare them, And let not thine heritage be brought to confusion. Hear us, O Lord, for thy mercy is great, And after the multitude of thy mercies look upon us, through the merits and mediation of thy blessed Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LORD, most good and powerful, we thy sinful people, here assembled before thee, do acknowledge it thine unspeakable mercy, that for our manifold and heinous provocations we are not utterly consumed, and given over for a prey to the Enemy and Avenger. We confess, with sorrow and consustion, our long unfruitfulness under the means of grace, the light of thy Gospel, and the many wonderful deliverances of this Church and State, which thou, in thy great goodness, hast vouchsafed unto us. O Lord, shouldest thou enter into judge-

ment with us for the crying fins of this nation, our profaneness and infidelity, herefies and schisins, our inordinate love of pleasures, and other manifold offences, thou mightest justly inflict upon us the feverity of thy wrath, and deliver us up to the reproaches and infults of our enemies: but there is mercy with thee, therefore shalt thou be feared: thou art the Lord God, tender and full of compassion, not willing that any should perish, but that all should repent and live. Look down therefore, we beseech thee, with an eye of pity and loving-kindness upon thy fervants, who with broken and contrite hearts do here bewail our transgressions and wretchedness. Let our land in this time of trouble still enjoy the light of thy countenance, and the bleffings of thy bountiful hand; and fo work upon our hearts and minds by the gracious influences of thy holy Spirit, that being turned from the error of our ways, and created to newness of life, we may walk before thee in all righteousness and holiness in this world, and inherit thine everlasting kingdom in that which is to come, through the merits of Jesus Christ our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen¶ After the general Thanksgiving, let the following Prayers be used.

¶ A Prayer for this Church and Kingdom.

Blessed Lord, who hast manifested thine abundant favour to these realms, in thy marvellous protection of our religion, laws, and liberties, from the fecret conspiracies, and open attempts of our enemies; we beteech thee to preserve evermore in our minds, such a grateful sense of these thine invaluable mercies, that by our exemplary and religiouuse of them, and happy improvements under them to thy honour and fervice, we may be accounted worthy of the continuance of thy bleffings to us and our posterity. Take away from us, O Lord, all hardness of heart, all neglect of thine ordinances, and contempt of thy word; and endue us with a spiric of piety and devotion, a spirit of justice and temperance, of humility and charity, and of all other graces which adorn the Christian profession; that to thy dreadful displeasure and judgements may be ever averted from us, and iniquity not become our ruin. Be thou pleased also with thine especial favour to guard and prosper our gracious Sovereign King GEORGE, with all the Royal Family. Be thou to Him, O Lord, an helmet of falvation against His enemies that delight in war. Do thou, we pray thee, frustrate frustrate their wicked designs, deseat their stratagems, and so put them to slight and consussion before His face, that the terror of His arms may add dignity and lustre to His crown, and bring safety, joy, and happiness to Himself and His kingdoms. Grant this, O merciful Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

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A Prayer for our Enemies.

BLESSED Lord, who hast commanded us by thy beloved Son to love our Enemies, and to extend our charity in praying even for those, who despitefully despitefully use us, give grace we beseech thee, to our unhappy sellow subjects in America, that seeing and consessing the error of their ways, and having a due sense of their ingratitude for the many blessings of thy Providence, preserved to them by the indulgent care and protection of these kingdoms, they may again return to their duty, and make themselves worthy of thy pardon and forgiveness: Grant us in the mean time not only strength and courage to withstand them, but charity to forgive and pity them, to shew a willingness to receive them again as friends and brethren, upon just and reasonable terms. and to treat them with mercy and kindness for the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶ A Prayer of St. Chrysostom.

Lmighty God, who halt given us grace, at this time, with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise, that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name, thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

z Cor. XIII. 14.

HE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

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